

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the claims as follows. This listing of the claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1 - 9. (Canceled)

10. (Previously Presented) A dishwasher comprising:
a washing container;
at least one device for washing crockery using a rinsing solution; and
a sorption column communicated with the washing container for the passage of air between the sorption column and the washing container, the sorption container containing reversibly dehydratable material that operates to withdraw moisture from air during the passage of the air through the sorption column, crockery retained in the dishwasher being subjected to a drying step after having undergone a treatment step as a result of which moisture remains on the crockery with the drying step including passing air from the washing container through the sorption column, and the sorption column being subjected to thermal energy to effect desorption of the sorption column with the thermal energy being at least partly used for at least one of heating the rinsing solution in the washing container and heating the crockery.

11. (Canceled)

12. (Canceled)

13. (Previously Presented) The dishwasher according to claim 10, wherein the sorption column comprises a container for the reversibly dehydratable material which makes it possible to exchange moisture and/or heat between the reversible dehydratable material and the air surrounding it.

14. (Previously Presented) The dishwasher according to claim 10, wherein a preferably electric heating element is provided for desorption of the reversibly dehydratable material.

15. (Previously Presented) The dishwasher according to claim 14, wherein the heating element is arranged in the reversibly dehydratable material or in the pipe to the sorption column.

16. (Previously Presented) The dishwasher according to claim 10, wherein the air introduced into the washing container via the inlet is cooled.

17. (Previously Presented) The dishwasher according to claim 10, wherein a droplet separator is arranged at the inlet or the pipe is guided upwards over a partial area at the inlet so that no spray water reaches the sorption column via the pipe.

18. (Currently Amended) The dishwasher according to claim 10, wherein the thermal energy used for desorption is stored in a heat storage device, ~~e.g. latent storage device~~, before use for heating the rinsing solution and/or the crockery.

19. (New) The dishwasher according to claim 10, wherein, during a partial program step using rinsing liquid to be heated, air from the washing container and/or from the ambient air is passed through the sorption column and into the washing container.

20. (New) The dishwasher according to claim 10, wherein, during a partial program step "drying", air from the washing container and/or from the ambient air is passed through the sorption column and into the washing container.

21. (New) A method for treating crockery disposed in a washing container, comprising:

subjecting crockery to at least a washing step, a rinsing step, and a drying step, wherein air is passed into contact with the crockery during at least one of the washing, rinsing, and drying steps and such air is thereafter guided to a sorption column communicated with the washing container for the passage of air between the sorption column and the washing container, the sorption container containing reversibly dehydratable material that operates to withdraw moisture from air during the passage of the air through the sorption column, crockery retained in the dishwasher being subjected to a drying step after having undergone a treatment step as a result of which moisture remains on the crockery with the drying step including passing air from the washing container through the sorption column, and the sorption column being subjected to thermal energy to effect desorption of the sorption column with the thermal energy being at least partly used for at least one of heating the rinsing solution in the washing container and heating the crockery, and the washing container having an outlet with a pipe to the sorption column, and the washing container has an inlet with a pipe from the sorption column, wherein a fan is located in the pipe to the sorption column, which introduces at least some of the air in the washing container or from the ambient air to the sorption column at least temporarily.

22. (New) The method for treating crockery according to claim 21 disposed in a washing container, wherein the drying step including passing air from the washing container through the sorption column includes passing air from a washing container having an outlet with a pipe and the pipe includes a check valve.

23. (New) The method for treating crockery according to claim 21 disposed in a washing container, wherein the drying step including passing air from the washing container through the sorption column includes passing air from a washing container having, in the direction of flow, an inlet valve to the ambient air.